Call Number Examples

(Great to use for help when searching ☺)

Book #1 Book #2 Book #3 Book #4

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *The Old Man and the Sea*  by  Ernest Hemingway  Fic  Hem | *Harriet Tubman*  by  David  Adler  Bio  Tub | *Cold War America, 1946-1990*  by  Ross Gregory  973.92  Gre | *History in Dispute*  *Vol. 6*  *The Cold War*  Ref  973.92  His |

*How to read a call number when searching:*

**Book #1:**

Fiction books are shelved by the author’s last name. The spine label displays the title, author, and call number. All call numbers in the fiction section will begin with “Fic”. The letters below “Fic” are the beginning letter of the author’s name. For this particular book, the author is Ernest Hemingway. Therefore, the book is shelved under “Hem”.

**Book #2:**

The biography section looks similar, but is a little different. Rather than the books being shelved by the author’s last name, the call number contains the subject of the biography. All books in the biography section, all call numbers begin with “Bio”, and uses the beginning letters of the subject to follow. For instance, this book is about Harriet Tubman, therefore the call number has the beginning letters of her last name because she is the subject of the biography.

\*Books that are non-fiction and reference materials are organized using the Dewey Decimal Classification System. Each book has a call number that falls under the range of DDC. The following chart is helpful when searching for non-fiction or reference materials:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 000-099 | General Knowledge |
| 100-199 | Psychology & Philosophy |
| 200-299 | Religion & Mythology |
| 300-399 | Social Sciences & Folklore |
| 400-499 | Languages & Grammar |
| 500-599 | Math & Science |
| 600-699 | Medicine & Technology |
| 700-799 | Arts & Entertainment |
| 800-899 | Literature |
| 900-999 | History & Geography |

**Book # 3:**

This book best fits in the category of “History and Geography”, therefore it has been organized in the 900’s. The numbers following the decimal point allow the librarian to be very specific with shelving books. After looking at the organization of the numbers, I use the last name of the author to be even more specific. The author’s last name for this book is Gregory, so the beginning letters of his last name are used, “Gre”.

**Book # 4:**

When looking for a reference book, the call number always begins with “Ref”. This section follows similar rules to other non-fiction text. This book is about the Cold War, and falls in the category of History and Geography, which is in the 900s. Since is it a reference text, the call number begins with “Ref”, followed by the DDC call number, then “His”, which is the beginning letters of the title.

\*These are a few examples of some of the sections you may come across. These examples can be used when searching for books in the library.